

## CONSENT FOR HIV TESTING

I want to be tested for the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), the virus that can cause AIDS.

I understand:

- The benefit and possible risk of testing, including the benefits of confidential (name-associated) testing.
- My HIV test results will be kept confidential. Wisconsin statutes allow my test results to be released to specific persons under limited circumstances, and allow for reporting positive test results to the State for the purposes of disease monitoring and intervention. A listing of the circumstances under which my HIV test result can be disclosed is available for review, if I request it.
- The option of an anonymous test is available for persons with concerns about having their name associated with a test.
- Additional counseling and assistance with health care and other services are available if I need them.

In addition, I understand that if I choose a rapid HIV test,:

- If the test result is non-reactive, the result is interpreted as negative and is available today.
- **If the test result is reactive, I am agreeing to a second (confirmatory) test that will be performed to determine whether I have HIV infection. This second test requires that a blood or oral sample be collected today to be sent to an off-site laboratory. Results will be available 1-2 weeks from today.**
- Only a positive result from the confirmatory test would indicate that I have HIV infection.

I have read the above information. It has been explained to me. My questions have been answered. I agree to be tested for HIV. I have indicated below the type of test to which I am agreeing.

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☐ I want my test to be confidential (with my name listed on the test result).

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

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**SIGNATURE** – Person Receiving Test

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Date Signed

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**SIGNATURE** – Person Legally Authorized to Consent  
on Behalf of Person Receiving Test

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Date Signed

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Telephone Number of Signee

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Relationship to Person Receiving Test

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**SIGNATURE** – Witness

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Date Signed

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☐ I want my test to be anonymous (without my name being listed on the test result).

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**CODE** – Person Receiving Test

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Date Signed

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**SIGNATURE** – Witness

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Date Signed

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## HIV Testing: What You Need to Know

### What is HIV?

HIV is the virus that causes AIDS.

### How is HIV passed from person to person?

A person who has HIV can give the virus to others. You can get HIV from an infected person if you do any of these:

- Have sex without a condom (anal or vaginal).
- Share needles used to inject drugs of any kind.

Women who are pregnant or breastfeeding should know:

- If you have HIV, you can give it to your baby before or during birth.
- Your baby can be exposed to HIV in your breast milk if you have the virus.

### Why is an HIV test important for me?

About one out of five persons living with HIV do not know they have HIV infection. That means they are missing out on drug therapies that could give them a healthier, longer life. They may also be passing HIV on to their partners without knowing it.

A pregnant woman with HIV can pass it on to her fetus during pregnancy if certain drugs or special steps during birth are not taken.

An HIV test is the only way to know whether you have HIV. So HIV testing is important to anyone who might have a chance of being HIV infected.

### Do I have a choice?

Yes, it's your choice -- you can decide if you want an HIV test. Other health care services and treatment cannot be denied if you decide not to be tested.

### Who will be told if I have HIV infection?

State law permits only a very limited number of people to know if someone has HIV infection. Positive HIV test results are reported to public health officials. Strict state laws safeguard confidential information on HIV.

### Who can assist people if they test positive?

Your health care provider can help a person who has HIV infection in obtaining the services they may need, including assistance from the local health department.

There are community-based agencies like AIDS service organizations and other agencies that can help persons with HIV infection find services that include:

- specialized HIV medical care
- HIV case management
- drug payment assistance for HIV medication
- housing assistance
- legal assistance

For more information on resources in Wisconsin, contact the Wisconsin HIV/STD/Hepatitis C Information and Referral Center by calling toll free 800-334-2437 or visiting the Information and Referral Center website at [www.irc-wisconsin.org](http://www.irc-wisconsin.org).

### There are three possible HIV test results:

- A **negative test result** means that a person is probably not infected with HIV. However, if a person has been recently exposed to HIV, it may be too soon to find out if infection has occurred. Re-testing may be necessary.
- A **confirmed positive test result** means that a person is infected with HIV and is able to spread the virus to others by having unprotected sex or sharing needles. If a person has not tested positive before, it is recommended that another test be done to verify the result.
- An **indeterminate test result** is neither negative nor positive. The person should be tested again as soon as possible.

No test is 100% accurate. Additional testing may be needed or recommended.